

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9 are rejected and claims 2-8 and 10-15 are objected to, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and 5-15 and added claims 16-28. Reconsideration and re-examination of pending claims 1-15 and added claims 16-28 is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claim 1 Under 35 USC 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) as being unpatentable over Tomita (US Pat. 5,936,429). In reply Applicant contends that Tomita does not anticipate the present invention because it does not teach each and every element of the amended claim.

Applicant notes that with regard to amended claim 1, Tomita specifically fails to teach, describe, or suggest the claimed invention for at least the following reasons:

Tomita's circuit is not an asynchronous circuit. In fact, the word "asynchronous" does not appear anywhere in the Tomita patent. Further, in Tomita the sending pulse refers to solving specific physical difficulties involved in transmitting a signal over a transmission line, whereas in the present invention the sending pulse refers to sending a signal to another process without the physical difficulties involved. Furthermore, the generator/converter combination of the present invention is used in a different manner as the one in Tomita. In the present invention, the generated pulse is "caught" by the converter in order to "hold" its value, whereas Tomita generates the pulse and feeds it through a combinational logic in order to transmit a signal of the same length as the pulse generated by the pulse generator.

Therefore, rejection of claim 1 has been overcome. Since claims 2-15 are based on a now allowable base claim, their rejection is moot as well.

The examiner has objected to claims 2-8 and 10-15. As requested, they have been rewritten in independent form as claims 16-28.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 9 and objected to claims 2-8, 10-15 as being dependent on a rejected based claim. In reply, Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and 5-15 and added claims 16-28. Applicant asserts that the present application is in a condition for allowance.

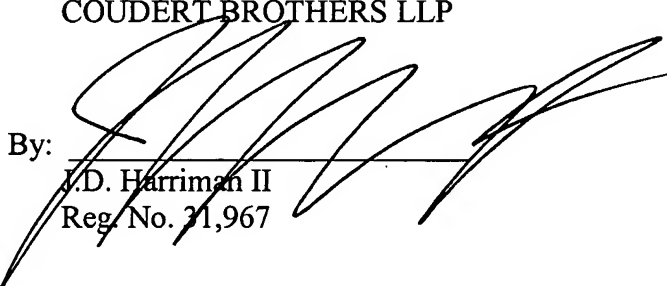
The Commissioner is authorized during the prosecution of this application to charge fees that may be required or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 501215, except for payment of patent issue fees required under 37 CFR § 1.18. Please show our above-referenced number with any credit or charge to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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